

**United States Department of Agriculture  
Forest Service  
National Forests in Alabama  
FOREST ORDER NO. 08-01-00-23-166**

**FIRE RESTRICTIONS**

*A. Authorities and Geographic Applicability.* Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50, this Forest Order prohibits the following acts on all National Forest System ("NFS") lands within the National Forests in Alabama, which is comprised of the following three ranger districts:

- (1) Bankhead Ranger District;
- (2) Talladega Ranger District; and
- (3) Shoal Creek Ranger District.

*B. Duration.* This Forest Order is effective upon signing until November 30, 2023, unless sooner terminated by an authorized Forest Service official.

*C. Prohibitions.* **The following acts are prohibited:**

- 1. Building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire or campfire (including charcoal) outside of developed recreation areas. Fires at developed recreation areas must be confined to receptacles designed for fire. 36 C.F.R. § 261.52(a).**

**Exemptions to Prohibition: Commercially available fuel stoves (camp stoves) and backpacking stoves are excluded from this restriction.**

**Definition: A "developed recreation site" means an area which has been improved or developed for recreation. 36 C.F.R. § 261.2.**

- 2. Violating any state law concerning burning or fires which are implemented for the purpose of preventing or restricting the spread of fires. 36 C.F.R. § 261.52(k). For purposes of this Forest Order, no person shall build or start any fire during any period for which a drought emergency or burn ban has been declared by the Alabama State Forester. Ala. Admin. Code r. 390-X-7-.09.**
- 3. Possessing, discharging or using any kind of firework or other pyrotechnic device. 36 CFR 261.52(f).**

*D. Enclosures.* A map depicting the three ranger districts following areas is attached hereto and made a part hereof: Occupancy and Use - Fire Restrictions for National Forests in Alabama.

*E. Exemptions.* Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this Forest Order:

1. Persons with a permit issued by a District Ranger or Forest Supervisor which specifically authorizes the otherwise prohibited act or omission; and
2. Any Federal, State, or local officer or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.

*F. Other Prohibitions.* These prohibitions are in addition to:

1. The General Prohibitions at 36 C.F.R. §§ 261.1–261.23 (Subpart A);
2. Orders currently in effect pursuant to 36 C.F.R. §§ 261.50–261.58 (Subpart B); and
3. Regional Regulations at 36 C.F.R. § 261.70 (Subpart C).

*G. Penalties.* Violation of these prohibitions are punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual and \$10,000 for an organization or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. Title 16 USC § 551 and Title 18 USC §§ 3559 and 3571.

Executed in Montgomery, Alabama this 27th day of November, 2023

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**Melvin Harris**  
Acting Forest Supervisor  
National Forests in Alabama